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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/552,560	10/11/2005	Mark Ryan Mayernick	PU030091	2556

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EXAMINER	
HOM, SHICK C	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/11/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/552,560	MAYERNICK, MARK RYAN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shick C. Hom	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 November 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-17* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-17* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *9/28/07*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 5-12 of the Remarks, filed 11/13/07, with respect to the rejections of claims 1-17 under Feuerstraeter et al. in view of Pham et al. have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the finality of the previous rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Awadallah et al. and Pham et al.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Awadallah et al. (6,449,251) in view of Pham et al. (5,524,253).

Regarding claims 1 and 10:

Awadallah et al. disclose a method and mean of configuring, in a router having a LAN interface and a WAN interface, a physical port for coupling to a network (col. 3 line 61 to col. 4 line 8 recite the router including port number mapping of traffic and Fig. 2 shows the LAN interface and the WAN interface), said method comprising:

associating, responsive to receiving said message, a set of mapping assignments for using said physical port to access said network; and

implementing said mapping assignments, responsive to associating said mapping assignments, to configure said physical port for coupling to said network (Figs. 1 and 3 show the port mapping scheme for a computer network including the port mapping table), wherein

said implementing step selectively controls whether said physical port is coupled to the LAN interface or the WAN interface (col. 2 line 62 to col. 3 line 15 and col. 3 lines 46-60 recite selecting and assigning data ports and col. 4 lines 9-42 recite controlling the links especially in case of bottlenecks).

Regarding claim 11:

Awadallah et al. disclose the router (Fig. 2 shows the router 200) comprising:

processor, memory, and support circuitry having a WAN/LAN port manager (Fig. 2 shows the manager 210);

a LAN interface (Fig. 2 shows the LAN interface 212);

a WAN interface (Fig. 2 shows the WAN interface 213); and

a plurality of physical ports selectively connectable to said LAN interface or said WAN interface (Fig. 2 shows the workstation, IP telephone, VoIP gateway, and corporate network having physical ports connectable to the LAN or WAN interface), wherein

said WAN/LAN port manager selectively controls whether each of said plurality of physical ports is coupled to said LAN interface or said WAN interface (col. 2 line 62 to col. 3 line 15 and col. 3 lines 46-60 recite selecting and assigning data ports and col. 4 lines 9-42 recite controlling the links especially in case of bottlenecks).

Regarding claim 2:

Awadallah et al. disclose storing said mapping assignments (Fig. 3 shows the port mapping table).

Regarding claims 3-4:

Awadallah et al. wherein said network is a Wide Area Network (WAN) and wherein said network is a Local Area Network (LAN) (col. 3 line 61 to col. 4 line 8 recite the LAN and the WAN).

Regarding claim 5:

Awadallah et al. wherein said network is a Local Area Network (LAN) prior to said step of implementing and is a Wide Area Network (WAN) after said step of implementing (col. 6 line 46 to col. 7 line 4 recite the local port being swap for the WAN port).

Regarding claims 6-7:

Awadallah et al. wherein said message is implemented using an Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) SET command and wherein said message is implemented using HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) data (col. 1 lines 19-27 and col. 2 line 62 to col. 3 line 15 recite the FTP, internet and use of TCP protocol clearly anticipating the SNMP set command and HTTP).

Awadallah et al. disclose all the subject matter of the claimed invention with the exception of whereby the WAN/LAN port manager selectively controls coupling to the LAN or WAN interface responsive to a configuration message as in claims 1 and 10-11; wherein said message is created after detecting at

least one hardware switch setting change as in claim 8; wherein said message is implemented using a router proprietary command message as in claim 9; wherein the implementing means changes the physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port as in claim 12; and wherein said implementing means changes the physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port as in claim 13.

Pham et al. from the same or similar fields of endeavor teach in the background of the invention that it is known to provide selectively controls coupling to the LAN or WAN interfaces responsive to a configuration message; wherein said message is created after detecting at least one hardware switch setting change as in claim 8; wherein said message is implemented using a router proprietary command message as in claim 9 (col. 2 lines 40-60 recite the message processing system in the network layer being used to integrate new networks such as across local or wide area networks into a common interface clearly anticipate the configuration message) as in claims 1, 10-11, and 8-9; wherein the implementing means changes the

physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port; and wherein said implementing means changes the physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port (col. 13 lines 22-47 recite the manager configuring for system security clearly reads on changing port secure) as in claims 12-13.

Thus, it would have been obvious to the person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide whereby the WAN/LAN port manager selectively controls coupling to the LAN or WAN interface responsive to a configuration message; wherein the implementing means changes the physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port; and wherein said implementing means changes the physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port as taught by Pham et al. in the router and method of Awadallah et al.

The motivation for using selectively controls coupling of the LAN or WAN interface responsive to a configuration message; wherein the implementing means changes the physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port; and wherein said implementing means changes the physical port from a secure type physical port to a non-secure type physical port or from the non-secure type physical port to the secure type physical port as taught by Pham et al. in the communication router and method of Awadallah et al. being that it provides more efficiency for the system since the system can selectively controls coupling of interfaces using a message from a single point and providing the desirable added feature of changing physical port secure type from that point.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
Goody discloses a local area network/wide area network switch.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shick C.

Hom whose telephone number is 571-272-3173. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pham Chi can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SH SH

CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
12/10/07